

COMMAND

ISSUE #9

Circulation is up again this month; as of 8/16/76 COMMAND has 54 paid subscribers. If this rate of growth continues, I hope to be able to lower my sub rates in the near future. The stand-by list has also grown and I thank those who have volunteered to help me keep these games running; I can always use more. The list reads as follows: Grabar, Cook, Blank, Luchs, Acheson, Kelly, Silke, Kerins, Mitchell, Fabry, Johnston.

If you are using one of the new Avalon Hill-produced Diplomacy sets (bookcase format), you should be aware of an error in the map board. The new mapboards have been drawn in such a way that they do not show the Eastern Med bordering on the Aegean Sea. East Med ~~does~~ border on the Aegean. ~~the~~

I am shelving Blitzkrieg for ~~while~~ awhile; only two people expressed interest in it. As for Wooden Ships, that will definitely start next issue. The details of play are given later in this issue under game openings. I am also starting a new section of Nuclear Destruction in the next issue. I have 6 definite entries plus one maybe. I had hoped that there would be a larger response for this game as I feel it can be one of the most exciting PBM games around. In the hopes of arousing more interest, I am going to try and fit a brief review of the game in this issue. If after reading the review, you want to play but don't yet have the rules, send me \$1.25 as an entry fee and I will get them to you (note to Rick Loomis: I will purchase a set

AUGUST 20, 1976

of rules and send you the name and address for all players I send a copy of the rules to).

I get the feeling that no one reads anything I write except the game moves. Only 8 people have sent in entries for the contest I announced last week. It's not too late to enter; last night a friend and I played a few games and it took between 6 and 13 tries to get the correct answer, so even one ~~turn~~ behind, you're not out of it. Trades are welcome to play.

Finally, next issue (which will be printed 9/12/76) I will definitely begin the analysis of 1975W. The opening moves will be analyzed by both Tom Johnston and myself.

For Sale - as a collection - no pieces missing, all in good condition. Shipping extra.

Blitzkrieg, World War III (1) (2), Tertius II, Sinai (1) (2), Siege of Leningrad (3), Revolt in East (2) (3), Operation Olympic (3), Dixie (2) (3), Wolf Pack (3), Breitenfeld (3), Austerlitz (1), and France 40 (2).

- (1) In SPI game box
- (2) Never played pieces, in sheet.
- (3) Includes magazine

K. A. Blanch
P. O. Box 1411
Pacifica, California 94044

RECENTLY RECEIVED

I'm looking for Aces & C's
NON-AREA PBM opponents for the
following games (my preferences
follow each game):

Luftwaffe (American),
D-Day (Allies), Stalingrad
(either), Bulge (either).

Contact: D. Agesta
1975IV COM1

Note: Turkey has an A in Bulgaria

Note: Italy's F Albania was in-
correctly listed as an A
last issue.

Fall 1995

England F North Atl to Irish
(Kingsfather) A Kiel to Berlin
F North Sea S A Hol to Bel
A Edinburgh to Yorkshire
A Holland to Belgium
A Denmark to Kiel
F Sweden to Denmark
R Baltic S A Kiel to Ber
F St. P. (NC) holds

France F Mid-Atl holds
(Granville) F Tunis holds
A Gascony to Burgundy
A Pied S FUST F Venice
A Belgium holds
A Ruhr S A Munich
A Munich holds
* ret Pie, OTB & NC holds

Italy F Albania to Trieste
(Mathias) A Silesia to Warsaw
A Tyrolia to Veneto
F Ion S F Naples to Tyr
F Naples to Tyrrhenian

Austria F Venice holds
(Marino)

Russia F Berlin holds*
F Black Sea holds*
A Budapest holds*
* ret OTB

Turkey A Mos to St. Petersburg
(Happel) A Trieste to Budapest
F Adr S ITAL A Tyro to Ven
A Serbia S A Tri to Bud
F Rumania to Black Sea

A 1975IV A 1975IV

F Anglia, Br. Isles

F Com 2 & Rom to Black Sea

CDA: David Kingsfather (as of 9/3)
134 N. Chatsworth
Larchmont, N. Y. 10538

Supply Center Chart:

ENG home, NOR, HOL, DEN, KIE, SWE,
St. P., BER, BEL (11) build 2
Fran home, AEE, POR, SPA, TUN, MUN
(7) even

ITA ROM, YEM, VIE, RUM, NAP, TRI,
WAR (5) even

AUS GRE, VEN (1) even

RUS UKR, MOS, YEM, BER (0) out

TUR home, BUL, SER, TUR, RUM, SEV,
BUD, GRU, MOS (10) build 2

PRESS
The moment we have all
been waiting for has arrived.
England declares war on that bar-
baric tribe known as France.

1975IV COM2

On 30 Sept 1975 the COM
is extending the Spring 1904
deadline to 9/10/76. Italy is
being played by Charlie Spiegel.
I have moves on file for all ex-
cept Italy; Germany's moves do not
take into account that Army Warsaw
retreated to Prussia. To avoid any
further confusion, I am printing
the positions of all pieces.

England (Lakofka) has F St. P. (NC),
North Sea, Irish Sea, English Ch.,
Mid-Atlantic, Picardy; A Gascony.

France (Young) F Portugal.

Italy (Spiegel) F Spain (SC), Gulf
of Lyon, Rome, Naples; A Marseilles,
Venice.

Germany (Blank) F Baltic; A Paris,
Munich, Silesia, Prussia, Berlin,
Livenia.

Austria (Birman) F East Med; A
Tyro, Vienna, Galacia, Rum, Bulg,
Greece.

Russia (Locmis) A War, Ukr.

Turkey (Bumpas) F Black Sea, Con,
Aegean; A Sevastopol.

1976F COM5 Spring 1903

England F North Sea to Helg Sight
 (Kerins) A London to Yorkshire
 F Den S A Holl to Kiel
 A Holland to Kiel
 F Eng Ch to North Sea
 F Mid-Atl to Eng Ch

Germany F Bal S A Kiel to Den
 (Bumpas) A Bel to Holl
A Kiel to Den*
 * ret Ruhr, Ber, OTB

Austria A Munich to Tyrolia
 (Anderson) A Bud to Trieste
 A Vien S A Mun to Tri
 A Ser S A Bud to Tri
A Rum to Gal*
 F Bul (SC) holds
 * ret Bud, OTB

Russia F Swe S Eng F Den
 (Young) A Ukr to Rum
 A Gal S A Ukr to Rum
 F Sev S A Ukr to Rum
F Con to Bul
 A Ank to Smy
 A Arm S A Ank to Smy

France F Por to Mid-Atl
 (Johnston) A Spain to Gascony
 A Mar to Pied
 A Pic to Bel
 A Par to Bur

Turkey A Smyrna holds*
 (C.D.) * ret OTB

Italy A Tyro S A Tri
 (Luchs) F Tunis to Ionian
A Tri S A Tyrolia*
 * ret Alb, Ven OTB

Italy is now being played by Rolf Luchs, 635 Gunderson Drive, Apt. 107, Carol Stream, Ill. 60187.

PRESS

(Paris to Rome) It was too irresistible.

1976G COM5 Spring 1903

Note: England built F Liverpool,
 not F London.

Argentina F Alabama holds
 (C.D.)

England F Norw Sea to Edin
 (Vanden Bos) A Yorkshire to London
 F Liverpool holds

France A Burg S A Belg
 (Anderson) A Paris to Gascony
 F Irish S A Pic to Wales
 F Eng Ch C A Pic to Wales
A Picardy to Wales
A Belgium holds*
 * ret Pic, OTB

Germany A Kiel to Munich
 (Johnston) A Denmark to Kiel
 F Holl to Belgium
 A Ruhr S F Holl to Belg
 F North Sea S F Holl to Bel

Italy A Venice to Piedmont
 (Kerins) F Rome to Luscany
 A Vie S Turk A Rum to Gal
 F Naples to Tyrr
 F Tunis to Wes Med
 A Trieste to Venice
F Greece to Aegean (NSU)
 A Greece holds

Russia A Sev holds
 (Mitchell) A Ukr S A Sev
 A Mos S A Sev
 F Sweden holds
A Warsaw to Galacia

Turkey A Rumania to Galacia
 (Young) A Serbia to Budapest
 A Con to Bulgaria
 A Ank to Rum
 F Bla Sea C A Ank to Rum
 F Armenia to Ankara

PRESS

(Berlin to Paris) You've got to be joking if you call that a balance. What about Spain and Portugal? I've got a better balance for you. I get all of France and you get an exile on St. Helena.

(Rome's special by Nosey Newsly)
 In a stirring release today, His Head Manchoness announced the formation of a firm German-Italian alliance. Italy, Mance proclaimed will take part in a defense

organization designed to protect German eastern and Italian northern borders (Vienna & Budapest) from attack by any and all powers. This defense pact will change the entire diplomatic arena in Europe. Already it is rumored that trouble is brewing between Italy and Turkey. This defense pact will also place increased pressure on the new Russian government to come to terms with Italian proposals for some type of diplomatic alliance.

After his Head Marchioness announcement, a military spokesman presented Italian plans for the occupation of Budapest this fall. When it was pointed out by this reporter that Turkish units were near Budapest, the military spokesman became very disturbed (as Italians do) and threatened to personally take apart (dissect) any Turkish personnel who dare to enter Budapest at any time.

Fall 1903 due 9/10/76

1976V COM10 Spring 1902

Note: Turkey builds F Smyrna

England A Yorkshire to Brest
(Mitchell) F Nor Sea C A Yor to Bre
F Eng Ch C A Yor to Bre

France F Picardy to Belgium
(Lebens) A Bur S F Pic to Bel*
A Mar S A Bur
* ret Paris, Gasc, OTB

Germany A Munich to Burgundy
(Beyma) A Ruhr S A Mun to Bur
F Belgium holds
A Denmark holds
F Kiel S A Denmark

Italy A Pied to Marseilles
(Schultz) F Tyrr to Gulf of Lyon
F Rome to Tyrr
A Tunis holds

Russia F Sev to Black Sea
(Watson) F Rum S F Sev to Bla Sea
A Armenia to Ankara
A Ukr to Sevastopol
A Swe S F St. P. (NC) to Nor
F St. P (NC) to Nor

Austria Freece to Aegean
(Spiegel) Trieste to Albania
A Vienna holds
A Serbia to Bulgaria
A Bud to Serbia

Turkey F Black Sea to Con*
(DeCook) A Bulg to Serbia
A Con to Ank
F Smy to Aegean
* ret OTB

PRESS

(St. Petersburg) Anita Quickie entered the czarina's throne room, hanging on the arm of a rather distinguished looking old fellow in an admiral's uniform. The old geezer was smiling. Czarina Clarina smiled at them as they approached.

"Well what do you think?" Clarina asked.

"Oh" giggled Anita, "I think the old goat has a few good shots left in him."

"Not that, silly, what do you think of the turkeys at sea?" She screwed her pretty face up, concentrating on the fact that she was discussing the sultan's battleships and not finned fowl.

"Admiral Popoff (I realize that last release he was Armed Forces commander but I need space for another character, you understand) smiled, "We need more ships to blow the god-damned birds from the water!"

Clarina silently wished she were watching Mary Hartman rather than messing with the affairs of state. She picked up her phone and called her 5-star general Kardnutz. Presently he appeared. Anita let out an audible sigh and ran to his side.

"Now, gentlemen, we shall have to decide the best course of action with our newly acquired resources. Should we build fleets or armies?"

"Armies," said Kardnutz.

"Fleets," replied Popoff.

"Armies," "Fleets," "Armies," "Fleets," "Parkay," "Butter," "Parkay" "Butter," "OK, Butter," "Parkay!!".

"Hold it!" Clarina said. "I will decide this, using the sovereign and holy decision making tool of the Empire." She drew a coin from her purse and tossed it in the air.

THE EUROPEM (PART 1)

Twas a late spring evening in the Romanov manor,
 The Tzar was contemplating his royal policy of candor.
 The moon was full, the stars were out, and the Duke was giving a ball,
 "Vienna is beautiful this time of year" said he to his consort, Madam DuBaul.
 The Tzarina Clarina was there with her court, all splendidous and grand,
 But unknown to all, was the presence of the sultan of Turkland.
 He knew of the plots that abound,
 To crush his army, and to steal his crown.
 "I'll show them" he thought "I'll know what they've planned,
 and when foiled, I shall have the upper hand."
 "We have thought the matter over, and can honestly say, you have our support
 You have our support in every way."
 "The Tzar will be glad to hear of this, I'm sure,
 but what do we use as bait, in order for us to lure
 The Turks to their final defeat?"
 "This shall be quite a feat,
 but if you are willing, we will offer them Rumania,
 and as soon as they snatch the bait, their disaster will rival that of the
 Lusitania."
 "So that's it" muttered the Sultan "Well I'll show them,
 I shall sneak up on Greece, and by surprise I shall take them."
 "Russia is a large empire, and the Tzar has large problems,
 Like the German army, he grows (uneasy), and he wonders if it too, shall
 become a problem."
 "I realize your concern Clarina, but as the Duke of Austria, I cannot busy
 myself with world affairs,
 The French Premier is now on his knees, last week he begged me to invade
 Germany, I cannot get entangled in the spider web of diplomatic affairs."
 "I have met the Premier, and I don't think,
 he's begging, that's what he wants you to think"
 "What" cried the Duke "That's ridiculous."
 "The Premier is a clever man, that I found out in Tulous"
 "Are you sure of what you say?" queried the Duke,
 if so I should notify Raoul Duke!"
 "Don't bother your Grace, France is sure to capitulate,
 for their generals are as inept as any to date."
 It was raining in Berlin, and the Kaiser was tired,
 he'd spent the day reading, and his mink had retired.
 "With the help of England, we'll crush the republic, and send the
 premier flying to outer Luboublie."
 "This is all well and good," said the Italian king, "but have you talked
 to the Tzar?
 before you go further, he could plunder from afar."

THUS THE HOT BREEZES COMING FROM THE SAHARA (BUT MOSTLY FROM THESE OLD
 WINDBAGS) THAWS OUT EUROPE FROM ANOTHER HARSH WINTER.

(Brussels) Plebiscites held this past week in Burgundy, Belgium and the Netherlands reveal an overall 7-1 support for association with the German Empire. These provinces will become German Protectorates and will soon be rid of the hated French oppression.

(Berlin) The General Staff amused

itself today watching reruns of the maneuvers of the French Army of the Pyrenees.

 U. S. Diplomacy

There were two mistakes last issue: North Dakota cannot support into Wyo.; Del. cannot move to Va. Blue's army remains in Del. The N.D. support does not affect the result. Fall 2003 due 9/10/76.

1976BT

COTTA Spring 1902

England A Edin to Norway
(Mathias) F North Sea C A Edin to Nor
F London to Eng Ch
F Norway to St. P. (NC)

France F Mars to Gulf of Lyon
(Acheson) A Paris S A Burg
A Burgundy holds
A Spain to Marseilles
F Portugal to Mid-Atl

Germany (Blanch) A Belgium to Ruhr
F Holl to Belgium
F Kiel to Holland
A Denmark holds
A Munich to Silesia
A Berlin to Prussia

Italy (Grabard) F Naples to Tyrr
F Rome to Tuscany
F Tunis to West Med
A Trieste to Venice
A Vienna to Piedmont

Austria (Cook) A Tyrolia to Trieste
F Gre S A Ser to Bul
A Serbia to Bulgaria
A Bud to Galacia

Russia (Fabry) F Sweden holds
A Galacia to Rumania
A Ukr S A Gal to Rum
F Sev S A Gal to Rum

Turkey (Edmonds) F Smyrna to Aegean
A Ankara to Armenia
F Bta Sea A A Ank to Arm
A-Romania S A Bulgaria**
A Bulgaria S A Rumania**
* ret Bud, Ser, OTB
** ret Con, OTB

Russia is now being played by:
Bob Fabry
8034 N. Ozark
Niles, Ill. 60648

PRESS

(Rome-Paris) What ever could you mean?
"That line before."

(Rome-Trieste) Like I said, I only wanted the fleet. I will demobilize the army next turn. Here is to a strong alliance in the years to come.

Fall 1902 due 9/10/76

1976BT

COTTA

Fall 1902

England F North Sea to Norway
(Lebens) A Yorkshire to Wales
F Eng Ch to Brst

France (Fabry) F Mid-Atl to Portugal
A Mar to Spain
A Burgundy to Munich

Germany (DeCook) F Denmark holds
A Kiel to Holland
A Ruhr to Munich

Italy (Luchs) A Venice to Piedmont
A Rome to Venice
F Ionian to Tunis

Austria (Bowman) F Albania to Greece NMR*
A Trieste to Budapest
A Serbia to Budapest
*standby moves submitted
by R. Marcel

Russia (Johnston) A Galacia to Vienna
F Rumania holds
F Gulf Both to Sweden

Turkey (Silko) F Black Sea to Ankara
A Bulgaria holds
A Con S A Bulgaria

Supply Center Chart:

ENG	3 home, NOR, BRE	(5) build 2
FRA	XXXMAX PAR, MAR, EXE, POR, SPA	
	(4) build 1	
GER	3 home, HOL, DEN	(5) build 2
ITA	3 home, TUN	(4) build 1
AUS	TRI, BUD, YZE, SER, GRE	(4) build 1
RUS	4 home, SWE, RUM, VIE	(7) build 3
TUR	3 home, BUL	(4) build 1

PRESS

(Rome) The Italian government announced today the retraction of its declaration of war against Germany earlier this year. Apparently the declaration was a practical joke perpetrated by a low ranking employee in the Foreign Ministry. The declaration was supposed to be against France, and the Italian government apologises for any inconveniences the delay may have caused France. The King denied charges that it was merely an attempt to fool the French. The King also announced the existence of a previously secret English-German-Italian alliance.

The member nations will hold their annual meeting in Paris and discuss stamp collecting.

(London) It is a sad day all over the English Isles. For the people have been informed that the King, in his infinite wisdom, has declared war upon the French republic, and allied the nation with Germany and Italy.

In order to find out why the King has taken such a dramatic step we have interviewed his chancellor. Here are his remarks: "It was regrettable that we had to move on France, but under the circumstances it was necessary. Last week we received a communique from Berlin offering us half of France in return for our help. Adding to this the offer by the Italian king for a healthy and lucrative alliance against France, we were forced to move as we did."

We also asked a local English farmer his opinion. "I love it. Now we can get back at them for causing us all that trouble in 1812."

(Moscow to Constantinople) Are you sure they have Holiday Inn hotels for us to stay in when we get to Budapest?

1976BT MORE PRESS

(Paris) The French high command is viewing the recent German military builds with much suspicion. The German builds of 1901 were solely due to a little subtle trickery which caught both the English and the French forces unaware.

Although we wish to avoid conflict with the German forces, we will not let our defenses down.

(Budapest) Today Prince Froogle declared war on Bulgaria and the grand council called an emergency meeting. After a long session, a man in the back shouted, "I hope the Turks don't mind."

(Newark) Don't trust loose mouthed Italians.

1976DP COM16 Spring 1901

Russia F St. P. (SC) to Gulf Bothnia
(Stone) A Warsaw to Galacia
A Moscow to Ukr
F Sevastopol to Black Sea

Italy A Venice to Pied
(Vie Brooks) A Rome to Venice
F Naples to Apulia

Turkey A Con to Bul
(Fabry) A Smy to Armenia
F Ank to Black Sea

Germany F Kiel to Holland
(Trembley) A Berlin to Kiel
A Munich to Ruhr

France F Brest to Picardy
(Cook) A Paris to Burgundy
A Mar S A Par to Bur

England F Edin to Norw Sea
(Johnstone) A Liverpool to York
F London to North Sea

Austria A Vienna to Budapest
(Luchs) A Budapest to Serbia
F Tri to Albania

Russia is now being played by
Rich Marcell
290 River Rd. Apt. B-4
Piscataway, N.J. 08854

(Berlin) The renounce has true by. Treachery Victory only aggression German. Government and peaceful cannot stop. Nothing be goals state wishes. To it stop achieved more.

(London to Moscow) "And I'm not just joking around either."

(Vienna) The Austrian King announces the existence of the Austrian empire, just south of Route 53 in Central Europe. Vacation homes are available on the beautiful Adriatic Sea, just 10 days' hard marching from the scene and impassable Alps. Only minutes away from downtown Trieste. Surrounded by the warm, friendly people of Germany, Russia, Italy and Turkey.

(Rome) Yielding to growing public demands, the Senate was called to

Emergency Session today by First Consul Caius Pompous to deal with the most Ominous of Crises to beset the infant Restored Republic, the Gypsy Curse.

Pious Romans everywhere are in agreement that the Calamities which of late have fallen upon Italy can only be the Result of the Machinations of Gypsies, carrying out the Orders of their heinous King, Zoltan XIII. Scholars, likewise, at the Academy of Unnatural Sciences in Bologna have fanned the Flames of Anti-gypsy Sentiment with their Disclosure that at a documented Public Gathering in 105 BC, an unnamed Roman Citizen inadvertently trod upon the gouty Foot of Zoltan I, a visiting dignitary and direct Antecedent of the current King of the Gypsies. The Ancient Record further revealed that this same Zoltan stormed from the Scene, muttering Curses upon the Republic. It is the Consensus of the

Academy that these Curses, due to disturbances in the Atmospheric Continuum, were unable to be activated until the Restoration of the Republic in 1897, and the Ascension of Zoltan XIII in 1900.

In his Fiery Speech before Senate, First Consul Pompous recited in Detail the List of Distresses which the Republic has endured which, taken together, shew Proof Positive of Gypsy intervention. Keynoted in his Address were the Sicilian Cold-sore Epidemic, which sent Thousands crying in Agony from Pizzarias across the land, and the almost simultaneous outbreak of Bunions on the feet of all the Mailcarriers of Florence.

No further testimony was needed to convince the Senators to act. Decrees were issued to every Province of the Republic denouncing Zoltan, and all Gypsies in General, and Promising Swift Retribution for the Sufferings of the Multitudes.

Fall 1901 due 9/10/76

COMMAND POST by Bill Stone

Origins was back in Baltimore at the end of July, numbered II this

year and we're Dopeen IX. I made it to Johns Hopkins again to get a look at the big names, examine the new products and try a tournament or two. I attended Origins I alone and was disappointed at the result. This time I arrived in the company of BOTB designer Carl Weiss, who is also a big wheel in the Virginia Tech War-games Society. The Tech gang was well respected in Baltimore by six members of the club; seven if you count expatriated publisher Dennis Agosta; or even eight if you count his attractive young wife. (You're blushing, Bernadette.) Carl and I barely made it in time for me to compete in the opening round of the Avalon Hill Classic 500, this due to an unplanned sightseeing tour of the Tunnel and surrounding harbor area. Once you're on that road, baby, you don't get off.

This year there were no lines, thank God, and I made the tourney in time to pick up a cheap Afrika Korps victory and then begin the obligatory cruise through Exhibition Hall. Right away I noticed one major difference from last year, and one major similarity. On one hand, Don Greenwood and Tom Shaw had shaved away their beards; on the other hand, Randy Reed was wearing the same outfit I'd last seen him in a year before. The Exhibit Hall itself was the menagerie I expected, with money changing hands fast enough to forecast a general upturn in the nation's economy. There were several new exhibitors. The only one I noticed as conspicuously absent from '75 was Martial Enterprises. This was gawking territory, if you're into that sort of thing. Lou Zecchi, Don Lowry, the aforementioned AH threesome, the entire GDW staff (though I never saw Rich Banner), various and sundry SPI people, Gary Gygax and his red-haired daughters. I hung around that last booth a long time without buying anything. As soon as I regained my composure, I started throwing my money away with the rest of the crowd. Too late, though, to get a copy of one game I really wanted, "La Bataille de la Moskowa." Sold Out.

Later that evening we joined forces with the main body of the

Blacksburg group and headed for Jim Dunnigan's lecture on "Game Design". The auditorium was jammed with war-gamers butt to butt which made for a cramped but otherwise amusing lecture: basically a comedy monologue (with occasional audience participation) that might better have been entitled "How I Run SPI". We adjourned to pizza and beer and ravaging each other's newly purchased games. Thence to bed.

I was up early for a quick (hah, you should have seen the line) breakfast and Round Two of the 500. I was on my way to a solid defense of the Tobruch perimeter when Dennis and Bernie arrived from exile in Newark. This so excited me (I told you she was attractive) that I promptly jumped up from the board for a round of hugging. When I returned, the 21st Panzer Division was in Tobruch. Needless to say, I resigned on the spot.

From there we scurried to the Diplomacy seminar where various stars of that galaxy held forth learnedly on diplomatic subjects and I made jokes in poor taste about Charles Reinsel (who I don't even know and who would probably have strangled me with my ponytail if he'd been there). Dennis had his thrill of the weekend when, as a publisher, he got to stand up and say his name and "Command". Little does he know that his ugly mug probably scared away a dozen new subscribers.

That afternoon, the Diplomacy tournament began. I had entered it basically as an after-thought, in case I was knocked out of the 500. Good thinking, Stone. I was on Board #9 and recorded a strong victory as Italy by having a permanent non-aggression pact with France and a strong ally in Russia (who qualified for second board in the next round). We stampeded on Austria-Hungary, then headed for Turkey. Sultan Fred Dans (publisher of Bushwacker) held on desperately as time and time again I screwed my orders or miscalculated. We finally got him with a sort of "delayed Le-panto" when the army rotting in Tunis was eventually convoyed to Syria in 1906. From that point it was clear sailing to sixteen centers without having to stab the Russian.

This surprised the hell out of me, not being that much of a Dippy player. I was still relearning the rules as the tournament went along, having to refer twice to Walt Buchanan and Doug Beyerlein for rule clarifications. Thus I entered the second and final round on Board #1 with considerable dread. I hoped maybe to knock out the leader so that Dennis (your friend and mine) who was on Board #2, might have a shot at first place. I drew Turkey and promptly began to bang heads with Russia while Italy (played by Walter Blank) set upon Austria-Hungary who was my first choice for an ally. Fortunately, the French came sailing into the Mediterranean to distract the Italians. My position was stable if unpromising when I finally had a chance to rape Russia. In my usual stupidity, I mis-wrote my key order and blew the entire operation while alerting Russia to my intentions. The war dragged on with France the big leader. I finally got another chance when the rest of Europe agreed to an anti-French coalition spear-headed by her erstwhile partner, the English. This gave me room to maneuver and I broke out of my corner by taking Sevastopol and being handed Greece. The Austrians and I continued to cooperate completely while Italy and Russia were reduced to remnants and the three western powers clubbed each other to death.

I finished second in the tournament one point behind champion Thomas Reape. I had the opportunity to win (though I didn't know how close the margin was) by stabbing my faithful friend Austria in Fall 1906. That turn I picked up St. Petersburg and Tunis to go to ten, high on the board. Had I been bloodthirsty enough, I could have taken two more centers that season by supporting myself instead of Austria into Warsaw and by walking blithely into unprotected Serbia (Austrian) with my Bulgarian army. However, I was not aggressive enough to go for an ally's jugular when my position looked so good. A plaque for second place and a plaque for best Italy is much more than I expected, and I'm pleased to have them. Besides, I was far from being the best (or even second best) player in the tournament.

The Convention failed out as the game ended and the winners were announced. We packed four of us with luggage and lots of new games into Carl's VW (the mighty Starship Supernova was awaiting my return to remove the engine and fix an oil leak) and we began the seven hour journey homeward.

All in all, Origins II was fine. In fact, it was the most fun I've had with my clothes on in years.

Next time: A surprising Stalingrad strategy article.

COA: Bill Stone

1445 Clover Dr.

Petersburg, Va. 22401

NEW GAME COM18 1976??

England Martin Sarch
42 Davidson Ave.
Jamesburg, N.J. 08831
France Frank McIlwaine
118 Jackson St., Albany, N.Y.
Rochester, N.Y. 14601

Germany Bill Farnall
1837 North Rensselaer
Griffith, IN 46319

Italy Jane Gale
1117 E Forest Ave.
Wheaton, Ill 60187

Austria Robert Achemon
c/o Echo Bay Mines
Port Radium, N.W.T.
Canada XOE 0X0

Russia Michael Edmonds
12529 A Western Cape
St. Louis, MO. 63141

Turkey Carl Weiss
706 Drapery Meadow
Blacksburg, Va. 24060

Spring 1981 due 10/1/76

GAME OPENINGS (* indicates fee already paid)

COM15 Wooden Ships & Iron Men entered:
Luchs *, Kinsfather, Blank,
Beardsley. We're going to use

the basic rules plus fireships. Each player is given 250 points to purchase ships (only one fireship per player) using the Napoleonic Period table. This game will be a free-for-all in which you will score points for capturing or sinking opponents ships and for sailing your own ships off the far end of the board. Building orders and game fees are due 9/10/76.

COM17 Nuclear Destruction: 6 entered plus 2 maybes. This game will start in issue #10. Game fee \$1.00 plus postage.

COM18 Diplomacy entered: Beardsley

COM8 Origins & Bourse entered:
Vic Brooks *, Blank, Trembley,
Need 2 more to start; preference
lists for countries accepted.
This game will use the 'Blind'
rules. Bourse is open to all
subscribers whether players or
not for \$1.00. I'll be glad
to explain the Bourse to anyone
who doesn't know what it is.

GAME REVIEW: Nuclear Destruction

I really love games, especially
games where there is no luck factor
(dice, spinners, chits...) to inter-
fere with the quality of play. I
guess that's why Nuclear Destruction
is second only to Diplomacy on my
list of favorite games. In ND it's
intellect against intellect, where
the outcome of the game is determined
by how you and your allies (if any)
make your 'moves'.

Basically, the game involves
destroying your enemies population
by firing missiles at him. Missiles
are obtained in two ways: by
building them with your factories
or gaining control of minor countries
who build missiles every turn of the
game. Of course you can't fire your
missiles until war has been declared,
and deciding when to declare war or
trying to guess (and play accordingly)
when someone else will declare war
can be the most crucial part of
your strategy. Before war is
declared, each turn is a build turn.
Here you must decide how much of
your production is to go into offense,

how much into defense, and how much is to be plowed back for capital improvements so that your production potential is increased for subsequent turns. There is also money for bribing minor countries, factories to sell for income, and spies to tell you what your opponent is doing or how well you are doing abroad.

The excitement level of PBM Nuclear Destruction is very high, especially when the game is run on one or two week deadlines. The game is very well suited to press as, unlike in Diplomacy, you don't know the identities of the other players in the game unless they choose to reveal themselves.

ORIGINS II/DIPCON IX

FINAL TOURNAMENT POINTS

168 participants

56	Thomas Reape	26½	* Len Dibbs	15	David Gravens
55	Bill Stone	26	Adam Gruen	14½	Ross Callender
51½	Steven Hokanson	25½	Stan Johnson		Mark Orman
49	Clinton Matthews	25½	Ferkin Doyle		Cliff Mann
	Dennis Agosta	25	James Hymas		W. Robert Johnson
	Richard Kovalcik		Tom Pitt	14	Bryan Remus
48	Richard Maltz	24½	Dave Turansky	13½	Jim Eliason
	Don Ditter		Alan Rowland	13	Tim Tilson
47	Ron Killeen		Stan Hooker	12½	* John Zilinski
	Bob Sergeant		John Morris	11½	Lew Pulsipher
46	Richard Copeland	23½	Paul Girdansky		John Baker
	Doug Beyerlein	23	David Stoy	11	Kirk Murley
	Fred Berenner		David Busch	10½	Lee Kenter Jr.
	Tom Yerkey	22	Nina Pawlak		Craig Laufer
45	Charles Spiegel	21½	Tom McNally		David Hecht
44	Walter Blank		Jan Crane	10	Harry Drews
43½	Matt Roswam	21	Ken Schultz	9½	Brian Addison
41½	Frank McIlvaine	20½	Patrick Roddy	9	Mark Barch
41	L. Daniel Mathias		Bryan Bullinger		Rusty Riley
	Michael Perfit		John Carekias		Charles Hart
39½	John Stevens	20	Roy Therne	8½	Oleg Kis
	Robert Deemie	19½	Gerald G. Drews		Doug Kaufman
39	B.E. Hessell		Mark Burden		Mark Ziarnik
38	Jeff Power		Jerry Paulson		Walter Rice
	Mark Gusack		Norm Weinstock	8	L. Gillespie
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	Cal White	18	Chris Dehmelt		Steve Chilcote
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34½	Jack Kerins		Ken Thurman		Ned Naughton
34	Kery Makhose	17½	John Kuzdale		Lyonel Reinhardt
33½	Don Pitsch		Perry Flint	6	Redger Oliver
	Ken Miller		Wm. Malkus		George Peninger
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	Bowen Simmons	16	John Toner	5	John Blaylock
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	Mike Maskaleris		Mark Nichols		T. Mohrmann
	Jack Brawner		Frank San Miquel		Steve Simmons
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	Bernie Agosta		Eric Goldberg		Terwin Griffin
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	Bob Fabry		Glen Taylor		Brian Merchant
27½	Richard Anada		Steven Blohm		Jack Sheriff
27	Richard Cooper	15	Summer Clarren	4	Daniel Plater

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See page 10 for game openings



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